REMARKS

Reconsideration and reexamination is respectfully requested. The indication of allowable subject matter is acknowledged with appreciation. Claims 1, 2 and 14 have been amended to remove the unelected subject matter as defined in the Office Action. Furthermore, claims 4, 8, 12, 13, 18, 28 and 35 have been amended. Claims 16, 17, 27 and 34 have been cancelled.

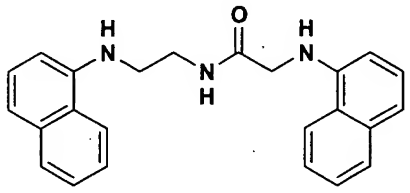
Claims 16-22, 24-25, 27-29, 31-32, and 34-35 were rejected under Section 112, first paragraph. The Office Action states that the application is enabling for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, fever, and asthma, it does not provide enablement for a method of modulation of chemokine or chemokine receptor activity, a method for treating various other diseases. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 18, 28 and 35 have been amended to cover antagonism of MCP-1 activity and CCR-2. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The specification, discloses the connection between antagonism of MCP-1 and inflammation generally, and several diseases specifically. The application describes that "the chemokine monocyte chemoattractant-1 (MCP-1) and its receptor CC Chemokine Receptor 2 (CCR-2) play a pivotal role in attracting leukocytes to sites of inflammation and in subsequently activating these cells." The specification describes that the compounds of the present invention are inhibitors of MCP-1, pages 285-286. The specification then provides a description of the connection between MCP-1/CCR-2 and several diseases. For instance, the connection with multiple sclerosis is described on page 5, lines 14-25, colitis is described on page 6, lines 21-25, lupus is described on page 6, lines 12-20, alveolitis on page 6, lines 26-32, and HIV infection on page 7, lines 23-37. Furthermore, on page 6, line 33- page 7, line 22, the connection between MCP/CCR-2 and inflammatory bowel disease, transplant, idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, psoriasis, and HIV associated

dementia are all described. (Copies of the references cited in the specification are included herewith in an IDS.) Therefore, the specification has described the connection between MCP-1/CCR-2 antagonism and the diseases listed. Withdrawal of the Section 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 11,12 and 15 were rejected under Section 103 as being unpatentable over EP 0443862. The EP patent publication discloses a series of compounds which are N-methyl-D-aspartic acid (NMDA) receptor antagonists. Specifically, Example 1 (page 21) discloses the following compound:



There is no teaching or suggestion in the EP publication to modify the compounds disclosed therein in order to make the compounds of the present invention which are MCP-1/CCR-2. Therefore, the compounds of the present invention are not obvious over the EP publication and withdrawal of the Section 103 rejection is respectfully requested.

The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and notification thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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